GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:352
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
EXPORT OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
DUKHA BHAGAT;MANSINH PATEL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rank of India in respect of exports of fruit and vegetables in the World market;

(b) whether India does not have a significant share in the export of Apples, Mangoes and Grapes despite the fact that the production is substantial in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are facing any hurdles in exporting fruit and vegetables from the country;

(e) if so, the details of such hurdles; and

(f) the efforts being made by the Government to remove these hurdles and to increase the export of fruit and vegetables?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (f) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 352 by Prof. DUKHA BHAGAT and Shri MANSINH PATE for answer on 13-12-2002 regarding Export of Fruits and Vegetables.

(a): As per Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) in quantitative terms, India ranked 26th in the export of fruits and vegetables in the world market.

(b): The shares of India in world export of apples, mangoes and grapes are about 0.5% , 5.96% and 0.73% respectively. (Source: FAO).

(c) to (e): Exports are less than what is potentially achievable due to a number of reasons such as lack of appropriate export infrastructure (e.g. Specialised Transport, Cold Chain Facilities), inability to meet quality and safety standards of importing countries (e.g. inadequate pre and post harvest practices, modern protective packaging, maximum residue levels).

(f) Government has been encouraging export of fruits and vegetables through various measures, such as arranging buyer-seller meets; participation in international fairs and exhibitions; setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International Airports; providing financial assistance for Infrastructure Development, Quality, Research & Development, Packaging and Marketing, promoting individual brands of Indian companies to foster international awareness of these brands. Export of fruits and vegetables is also being encouraged through Agri Export Zones (AEZs).Out of 40 AEZs approved so far, 31 relate to fruits and vegetables.